

REMARKS

In response to the objection under Section 112, set forth in paragraphs 5 and 6, it is not understood what is the nature of the objection. It is stated the claim is not understood, but it is not indicated why. The claim seems clear and it is not apparent what the objection is based upon. Clarification is requested.

With respect to the rejection of claim 1 based on Wang under Section 103, it is respectfully submitted that Wang does not teach attaching any kind of ligand "along a polymer bristle." The concept here is that a ligand is attached to a polymer bristle which necessarily must already have been formed.

In Wang, nothing is attached to the asserted cleaning pad. Anything that is included in the form of ion exchange material is integrated into the pad, not attached to the pad. Thus, not only does Wang not teach a brush or attaching anything to a brush, he does not even attach anything to his sponge once it is formed.

With the claimed invention, it is possible to secure the ligands after formation of the brush itself, creating considerable advantages.

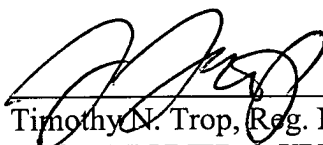
Again, it is respectfully submitted that nothing in Wang suggests any kind of ligand, but, even if he did, it is clear that he does not attached anything to the sponge. Instead, he talks about embedded or impregnated ion exchange particles therein. See column 7, lines 8-15 and Figure 2.

On the same basis, reconsideration of the rejection based on Andros is respectfully requested. The rejection suggests that Andros uses cationic ligands. Certainly, there are no cationic ligands in Andros. The only things that are cationic are the elements 42 and 43, cross-linked, as shown in Figure 3. Since they are cross-linked, they are part of the plastic that forms the sponge. They are not attached along the sponge. Thus, again, not only is a brush not taught, but the attachment of something to the brush is not suggested. Instead, the internal plastic structure of the sponge is made cationic.

Therefore, neither reference teaches the claimed invention and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Timothy N. Trop', is written over a horizontal line.

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